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### FEATURE INTERVIEW

#### The Future of Acquisition Excellence

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James Thomsen, principal civilian deputy, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition; Lt. Gen. N. Ross Thompson III, military deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition; and Lt. Gen. Mark D. Shackelford, military deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition discuss the changes their respective military services are facing, particularly with the recent changes in the acquisition community and the call to hire and recruit more acquisition professionals.

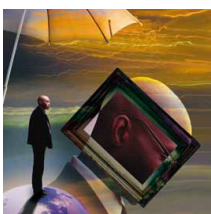
### Inside Defense AT&L



#### Let's Fix It

Scott Reynolds

Building a case for urgency when it comes to fixing DoD's acquisition of major capabilities is simple: just implement five recommendations that have been noted numerous times but never consistently implemented. They don't require significant effort on DoD's part, and they can help bring credibility back to DoD acquisitions.



#### There Are No Facts About The Future

Lt. Col. Dan Ward, USAF

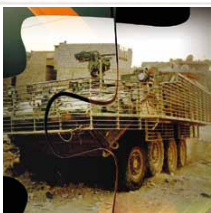
If one meteorologist predicts a 50 percent chance of rain and another predicts a 25 percent chance of rain, who is right if it does rain? Is one in greater error than the other if it doesn't rain? And why do we spend so much time worrying about the future when there is no certainty in what's going to happen?



#### Contracting Excellence via Continuous Process Improvement

Glenn L. Starks

Applying continuous process improvement techniques can streamline contracting processes and ensure the process is effective, improving customer support as well as regulatory compliance.



#### Achieving Army-Marine Corps Logistics Interoperability

Dale E. Houck

The Army-Marine Corps Logistics Interoperability Demonstration is a significant step in addressing several logistics challenges as it works toward improved Army-Marine logistics capabilities.



#### Leveraging Nunn-McCurdy to Ensure Program Success

Dennis K. Van Gemert

Spending a small amount in developmental analysis and design costs upfront can save a program much over the long run, even if it leads to a Nunn-McCurdy review.



#### Making Affordability Work

Dan Klingberg and David W. Panhorst

Establishing an affordability manager and applying effective affordability practices provides the necessary balance between performance and cost in a product.



#### Lighten Up: Another Irreverent Look at Project Management

Wayne Turk

Humor can help program managers survive the unreasonable expectations, unrealistic schedules, unworkable budgets, scarce resources, and frequent crises that are part of most projects.



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### 13 Theta



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